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VIRGINIA

BEFORE THE VIRGINIA GAS AND OIL BOARD

APPLICANT:

VIRGINIA GAS AND OIL BOARD ON ITS OWN MOTION

DIVISION OF GAS AND OIL

RELIEF SOUGHT:

MODIFICATION OF: (1) VIRGINIA OIL AND GAS CONSERVATION BOARD (OGCB) ORDER NO. 3-90 ENTERED MAY 18, 1990 AND VIRGINIA GAS AND OIL BOARD (VGOB) ORDER NO. 93-0216-0325 ENTERED APRIL 5, 1993 (herein collectively "Oakwood I Order") AND (2) VGOB ORDER NO. 91-1119-0162 ENTERED MAY 28, 1992 AND VGOB ORDER NO. 93-0216-0336 /93-0316-0349 ENTERED JUNE 23, 1993 (herein collectively "Oakwood II Order") FOR THE PURPOSE OF EXTENDING AND REDEFINING THE BOUNDARIES OF THE OAKWOOD COAL BED GAS FIELD I (herein "Oakwood I Field") AND THE OAKWOOD COALBED METHANE GAS FIELD II (herein "Oakwood II Field") TO INCLUDE THE AREA IN BUCHANAN COUNTY, VIRGINIA, DESCRIBED IN PARAGRAPH 7.a. BELOW (herein "Oakwood Coalbed Gas Field") AND TO ESTABLISH DRILLING UNITS WITHIN

DOCKET NO. VGOB 93-0316-0348

LEGAL DESCRIPTION: BUCHANAN COUNTY, VIRGINIA (SEE DESCRIPTION SET FORTH IN PARAGRAPHS 7.a. AND 7.b BELOW)

AND THE OAKWOOD II ORDERS

THE EXTENDED AREA CONSISTENT WITH THOSE ESTABLISHED BY THE OAKWOOD I

REPORT OF THE BOARD

FINDINGS AND ORDER

- 1. Hearing Date and Place: This matter came on for hearing before the Virginia Gas and Oil Board (hereafter "Board") on its own motion on March 16, 1993, at which time this matter was continued for further hearing to 9:00 a.m. on April 21, 1993, Dickenson Conference Room, Southwest Virginia 4-H Center, Abingdon, Virginia.
- 2. Appearances: Elizabeth McClanahan of the law firm of Penn, Stuart, Eskridge & Jones appeared for Pocahontas Gas Partnership; Mark A. Swartz appeared for OXY USA, Inc. and Island Creek Coal Company; and Sandra B. Riggs, Assistant Attorney General, was present to advise the Board.
- 3. <u>Jurisdiction and Notice</u>: Pursuant to Sections 45.1-361.1 et seq., Virginia Code, 1950 as amended, and in particular, § 45.1-361.20, the Board finds that it has jurisdiction over the subject matter and that notice of the hearing of this matter was published in accordance with § 45.1-361.19.B of the code.
 - 4. Amendments: None.
 - 5. <u>Dismissals:</u> None.

- and evidence pertaining to: (1) the extent to which the limits of the Oakwood I Field and the Oakwood II Field should be extended, if at all, beyond the boundaries of the drilling units established by the Oakwood I Order and the Oakwood II Order to include additional areas in Buchanan County, Virginia, to the north, east and west of the Oakwood I Field and the Oakwood II Field (herein "Extension Area") for the exploration, development and production of coalbed methane gas from all seams below the Tiller Seam, including but not limited to the Upper Seaboard, Greasy Creek, Middle Seaboard, Lower Seaboard, Upper Horsepen, Middle Horsepen, War Creek, Lower Horsepen, Pocahontas No. 8, Pocahontas No. 7, Pocahontas No. 6, Pocahontas No. 9, Pocahontas No. 4, Pocahontas No. 3, Pocahontas No. 2 and various unnamed seams and all zones in communication therewith and all productive extensions thereof (hereinafter the "Pool"); and (2) for the purpose of extending the establishment of drilling units for the Extension Area of the Oakwood I Field and the Oakwood II Field in accordance with the criteria set forth the Oakwood I Order and the Oakwood II Order.
- 7. Relief Granted: Available data and the evidence adduced at the hearing show that the Pool underlying the Extension Area has the same characteristics as, and a similar nature to, the Pool underlying the Oakwood I Field and the Oakwood II Field, and that their combined areas should be treated as a common coalbed methane pool or reservoir, subject to the field rules established by: (1) the Oakwood I Order for coalbed methane wells producing in advance of mining; or (2) the Oakwood II Order for unsealed gob gas, short hole gas, and gas from any wells authorized by the Code of Virginia (1950 as amended) for coalbed methane wells producing concurrently with active mining operations; therefore, the requested relief in this cause be and hereby is granted and: (1) Pursuant to §45.1-361.20, Code of Virginia, 1950 as amended, the Oakwood I Order and the Oakwood II Order are modified and amended in the following respects:
- a. Paragraph Numbered 1, Page 4, of OGCB Order 3-90 and subparagraph numbered 7.b., page 4, of VGOB Order No. 91-1119-0162 are deleted in toto and replaced with the following language:
 - The boundaries of the Oakwood Coalbed Gas Field shall be as follows:

Beginning at Latitude 37-07-30, Longitude 82-07-30; thence, east with Latitude 37-07-30, 58 units, approximately 108,272 feet, (a unit shall be a square containing 80 acres with each side of the square being 1866.762 feet), to a point forming the southern boundary of the Oakwood Coalbed Gas Field. Thence, with the grid in a northwardly direction, approximately 27.5 units, to the West Virginia (WV) state line; thence, with the state line in a westward direction to the intersection of the state line and Latitude 37-20-09; thence, with Latitude 37-20-09 west to Longitude 82-00-11; thence, south with 82-00-11 to Latitude 37-17-30; thence with 37-17-30 west to Longitude 82-07-30 to unit A-1; thence, south with 82-07-30 to the intersection of unit L-1 and M-1; thence, with the grid system, west 5 units (approximately 9333.80 feet); thence, south with the grid system, 20 units to Latitude 37-07-30; thence, east with 37-07-30 to the point of beginning, the southwestern corner of the Vansant quadrangle (as shown on the map exhibit submitted during the hearing held in VGOB 93-0316-0348).

This area shall be considered a distinct coalbed methane reservoir or pool and the same be and is denominated the "Oakwood Coalbed Gas Field".

b. Subparagraph numbered 7.b, page 4, of VGOB Order 91-1119-0162 (Oakwood II Order), as modified by Subparagraph 7.a.1. of this Order, has and shall continue to contain the following exceptions:

Less and except from the Oakwood II Field, the following 80-acre drilling units affected by the Board Orders issued in Docket Numbers VGOB 91-1119-0158, 91-1119-0160 and 91-1119-0180:

- (1) For longwall panel production units known as SLW1, SLW2, SLW3 and SLW4 established by VGOB Order No. 91-1119-0158, less and except from the Oakwood II Field the following Units: 25Z, 25AA, 25BB, 25CC, 26Z, 26AA, 26BB and 26CC.
- (2) For longwall panel production units known as NELW1, NELW2, NELW3, NELW4, NELW5, NELW6, NELW7, NELW8, NELW9 and NELW10 established by VGOB Order No. 91-1119-0160, less and except from the Oakwood II Field the following Units:

NELW1: 25W, 25X, 26W and 26X;

NELW2: 25W and 26W;

NELW3: 24V, 24W, 25V, 25W, 26V and 26W;

NELW4: 24V, 25V and 26V;

NELW5: 24U, 25U, 26U, 24V, 25V, and 26V;

NELW6: 24U, 25U and 26U;

NELW7: 26T, 23U, 24U, 25U and 26U;

NELW8: 23T, 24T, 25T, 26T, 23U and 24U;

NELW9: 22T, 23T, 24T, 25T and 26T;

NELW10: 22S, 23S, 24S, 25S, 26S, 22T, 23T, 24T, 25T and 26T.

(3) For longwall panel production units known as SLW5, SLW6, SLW7, SLW8, SLW9, SLW10, SLW11 and SLW12 established by VGOB Order No. 91-1119-0180, less and except from the Oakwood II Field the following Units:

SLW5: 27W, 27X, 27Y, 27Z, 27AA, 28W, 28X, 28Y, 28Z and 28AA;

SLW6: 28W, 28X, 28Y, 28Z and 28AA;

SLW7: 28W, 28X, 28Y, 28Z, 28AA, 29W, 29X, 29Y, 29Z and 29AA;

SLW8: 29W, 29X, 29Y, 29Z and 29AA;

SLW9: 29W, 29X, 29Y, 29Z, 29AA;

SLW10: 29W, 29X, 29Y, 29Z, 29AA, 30W, 30X, 30Y, 30Z and 30AA;

SLW11: 30W, 30X, 30Y, 30Z and 30AA;

SLW12: 30W, 30X, 30Y, 30Z, 30AA, 31W, 31X, 31Y, 31Z and 31AA.

- c. Paragraph 5 of the Oakwood I Order and subparagraph 7.c. of the Oakwood II Order are amended to provide that the drilling units established for the Oakwood Coalbed Gas Field shall be aligned and arranged so that they shall constitute a consolidated grid beginning at Latitude 37-07-30, Longitude 82-07-30, the southwestern corner of the Vansant USGS quadrangle with the grid point located at FF-0 and FF-1, all as depicted on the map submitted during the hearing held in VGOB 93-0316-0348.
- d. The Oakwood I Order and the Oakwood II Order, as amended hereby, shall apply to all Operators exploring, developing and/or producing coalbed methane gas within the Oakwood Coalbed Gas Field.
- e. Except as specifically modified by Paragraphs 7.a., 7.b., 7.c. and 7.d. hereof, the Oakwood I Order and the Oakwood II Order as applicable, shall remain in full force and effect in accordance with their respective terms.

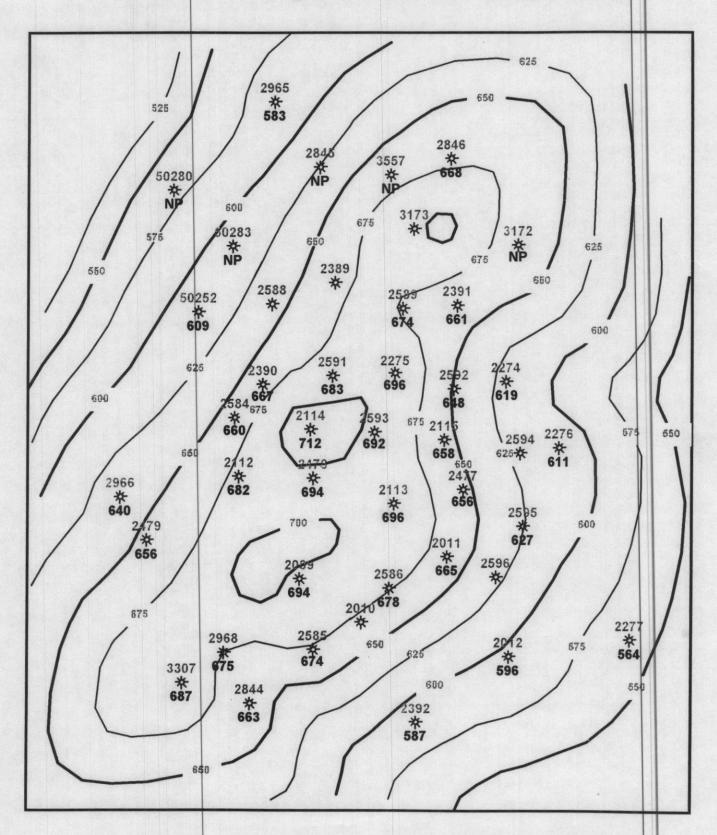
8. Special Findings:

- a. The strata within the Oakwood Coalbed Gas Field consists of sandstone, shales and coals of the Lower Pennsylvania Pottsville Group. The formations in ascending stratigraphic order are the Pocahontas (which contains the Pocahontas No. 3 seam) and the New River. There is approximately 800 feet of stratigraphic section between the Pocahontas No. 3 seam horizon and the New River formation horizon. Structurally, this area lies in the asymmetrical, southwesterly plunging Dry Fork Anticline. Strata dips are to the northwest at approximately 1 degree. The Dry Fork Anticline plunges approximately 0.5 degrees to the southwest.
- b. The evidence presented indicates that the boundaries of the Pool underlying the Oakwood I and the Oakwood II Fields extend to the boundary of the area described in subparagraph 7.a. above.
- c. The relief considered and granted is just and reasonable, is supported by substantial evidence and will afford each person in a drilling unit the opportunity to recover or receive, without unnecessary expense, each person's just and fair share of the production from such unit. The granting of the relief considered will ensure to the extent possible the greatest ultimate recovery of petroleum hydrocarbons, prevent or assist in preventing the various types of waste prohibited by statute and protect or assist in protecting the correlative rights of all persons in the Subject Formation in the Subject Lands.
- 9. <u>Conclusion:</u> Therefore, the relief considered in accordance with the terms and provisions set forth in Paragraph 7 above be and hereby is granted and IT IS SO ORDERED.
- 10. Effective Date: This Order shall be effective as of April 21, 1993, the date of the hearing on this matter.

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DONE AND EXECUTED this 23 day of of the Virginia Gas and Oil Board.	October, 1993, by a majority
of the virginia das and off Board.	The Restance of the Restance o
DONE AND PERFORMED this 23th day	Seron 2. Julmer
Prin	on Thomas Fulmer cipal Executive to the Staff inia Gas and Oil Board
STATE OF VIRGINIA) COUNTY OF WISE)	0-40
Acknowledged on this personally before me a notary public in appeared Benny Wampler, being duly sworn of the Virginia Gas and Oil Board, that he	did depose and say that he is Chairman
to do so.	Susan G. Garrett Notary Public
My commission expires 7/31/94	
STATE OF VIRGINIA) COUNTY OF WASHINGTON)	
Acknowledged on this 230 day of before me a notary public in and for the Continuous Fulmer, being duly sworn did depose to the Staff of the Virginia Gas and Oil Bauthorized to do so.	ommonwealth of Virginia, appeared Byron and say that he is Principal Executive
My commission expires 9/30/97	
admitted to record/this day of	it Court of Buchanan County. The foregoing instrument together with the certificate of acknowledgment annexed,
Deed Book No. 4 and Page No. 329	

Frying Pan CBM Field Structure Map: Base of Beckley Coal



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